

Southern Illinois University Carbondale

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SIU wins position battle

BRANDON LACHANCE
Daily Egyptian

SIU coach Dale Lennon said his team knew Northern Iowa had a quarterback duo similar to the Salukis' and was ready for anything the Panthers' offense was going to run. The Saluki quarterback combination bettered the production of their opponents as they helped the team come away with a 45-38 overtime victory.

"We had seen enough of them and they had used enough of the quarterback combination that our guys were pretty prepared for that," Lennon said.

The Salukis run a dual quarterback offense with senior Chris Dieker, who can throw and has proven he can run, and scrambler sophomore Paul McIntosh. UNI runs a similar quarterbacking style, starting mobile junior quarterback Tirrell Rennie while bringing pocket passer junior Zach Davis off the bench when coach Mark Farley wants to switch it up.

Dieker and McIntosh combined for five of the six Saluki touchdowns and one turnover Saturday while Rennie and Davis combined for four touchdowns and three turnovers.

Please see FOOTBALL | 7



STEVE BERCZYNSKI | DAILY EGYPTIAN

Chance Coda, a junior defensive end, celebrates SIU's overtime win against Northern Iowa Saturday at Saluki Stadium. SIU scored with more than one minute left in the game to force overtime. The Salukis' record is 3-3.

Back in the hunt

Overtime win against rival puts Salukis in thick of conference title race

NICK JOHNSON
Daily Egyptian

Coach Dale Lennon and his Salukis can finally exhale.

With a scintillating 45-38 overtime win over rival Northern Iowa on Saturday, SIU has climbed from its 1-3 start to 3-3 and now has its sights set on South Dakota State, a team that got its first win of the season against Western Illinois on Saturday.

The Jackrabbits (1-4) accompanied the Salukis in the 2009 playoffs, but, like SIU, have stumbled out of the gate in 2010, losing their first four games.

The Salukis gave away their third multiple-score lead of the season in Saluki Stadium's first homecoming game when UNI quarterback Tirrell Rennie slipped into the end zone from one yard out to give the Panthers (2-3, 2-1 MVFC) a 35-31 lead in

the fourth. SIU had led 31-14 at halftime.

SIU's quarterback Chris Dieker threw an interception on the next drive that led to a UNI field goal and a seven-point lead for the Panthers. But Dieker then took the Salukis down the field and scored the tying touchdown on a 3-yard run with more than one minute remaining in the game.

"That just shows we are the type of offense that doesn't give up,

no matter what the score is we're going to keep fighting, scratching away until we get something positive to happen," Dieker said. "That's what happened (Saturday), we had a little stall at the beginning of the second half, the momentum switched over to their side, we found a way to come back."

Please see PANTHER | 7

Aviation career day lands more than 100 potential students

LAUREN LEONE
Daily Egyptian

David NewMyer said the aviation program's greatest recruitment tool draws attention from more than 100 potential students in one day.

More than 110 Chicago-area high schools and community colleges visited campus for the American Airlines-SIUC Aviation Career Day on Saturday to learn more about the aviation management and flight program, said NewMyer, chair for aviation management and flight. He said 10 to 15 percent of

people who attend the career day enroll in the program.

The aviation management and flight program is one of the nation's most recognized flight programs, and it is celebrating its 50th anniversary, NewMyer said.

"People know us very well," he said. "It's the word of mouth from alumni that allows us to succeed."

American Airlines Capt. Rich Mueller and First Officer Tom Meagher, both SIUC aviation alumni, piloted the flight from Chicago to Southern Illinois Airport along with 12 other SIUC

aviation alumni, NewMyer said.

Sam Oas, a junior from Villa Park studying aviation, served as an ambassador for the program and toured the facility with students.

He said the program's partnership with American Airlines is one of a kind and goes back 20 years when it was known as Trans World Airlines.

"We have American Airlines donating an aircraft to fly potential students down here today. I don't think any other school does that," Oas said.

American Airlines paid for the

flight and provided lunch for all the students, he said.

"A large number of ambassadors talking to these students were recruited through a career day similar to this," Oas said. "It's been very successful so far."

Frank Pruss, 18, of Oak Brook, was one of the 110 students who flew from Chicago to see what the university has to offer.

He said the aviation program has been his No. 1 choice for a long time, but being able to tour the facilities Saturday and learning of the small class sizes cemented his

decision even more.

"I think it's the best aviation program in the nation, and offers more than any other university," he said.

He said he had the opportunity to check out the flight simulations, computer-based flight training systems and aircrafts.


Quachard Sloan, 18, of Chicago, said he will apply to SIUC's aviation management and flight program when he graduates from high school.

Please see AVIATION | 2

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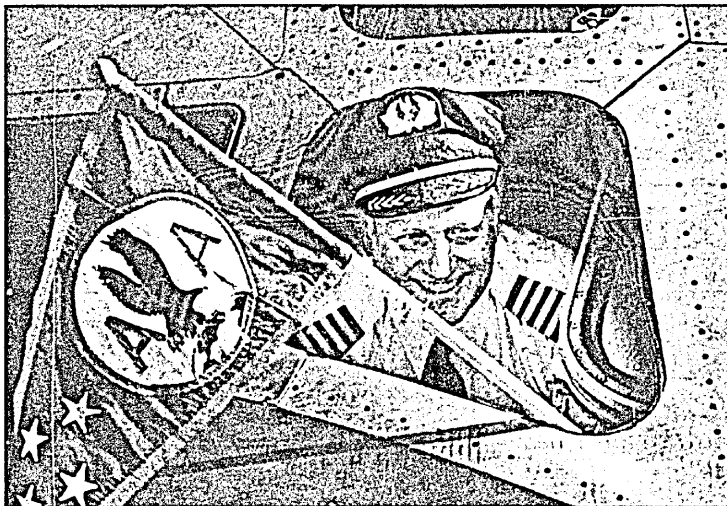


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PAT SUTPHIN | DAILY EGYPTIAN

Rich Mueller, a captain with American Airlines, peeks his head out of an MD-80 after landing the plane Saturday at the Southern Illinois Airport. Mueller, an SIU alumni who graduated in 1980

with a degree in aviation flight, flew 110 students from Chicago-area high schools and community colleges to SIU for the Aviation Career Day, hosted by SIU's aviation department.

AVIATION

CONTINUED FROM 1

Sloan said he enjoys the idea of being a pilot, but would rather have hands-on experience with aviation mechanics because he has worked on cars with his father since he was young.

"I guess I just wanted to see a bigger engine," he said. "But I still consider flying to be the biggest thrill of my life."

Oas said SIU's Flying Salukis, the program's flight team, became the first in the modern history of the National Intercollegiate Flying Association to win first place in regional competition three years in a row, from 2007 to 2009.

The team ranked fourth nationally in 2010 against 29 teams, he said. Oas said he is impressed with the 15-member flight team because of its ability to compete

against universities with larger student populations.

He said students who enroll in the aviation program will see the benefits if they dedicate themselves to what he describes as a "rough first year." He said in his first year studying, he ranked 27th out of 150 in the nation for Aircraft Recognition as part of the Flying Salukis, and credits his success to the aviation program's instruction.

"Compared to a lot of bigger schools, SIU has more one-on-one attention," he said.

He said typical flight instruction classes are two hours long with no more than three or four students at a time.

David Shrum, a senior from Bolingbrook studying aviation and psychology, is a member of Alpha Eta Rho, a fraternity for aviation men and women. He said students getting involved with organizations

is the best way to build relationships and make connections in the aviation program.

"It's like taking on a family," he said. "We're all very tightly bonded."

Shrum said the 16th floor of Mac Smith Hall is dedicated to aviation majors, which adds to the sense of community.

"We even have instructors come up and visit us, so you're definitely absorbed in aviation constantly," he said.

Pruss said he wants to be an airline pilot once he graduates from college, and has logged 80 hours of flight time after earning his private pilot license.

"It's fast, it's fun, it's complicated. It's an achievement to learn how to fly something like this," he said.

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About Us

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Kentucky band makes quality debut in Carbondale

Rating: 9 out of 10 on the Simmyscale

RYAN SIMONIN
Daily Egyptian

They call themselves The Bad Reeds, but their first performance in Carbondale was nothing short of excellent.

The group of four from Bowling Green, Ky., put on an amazing show from beginning to end Saturday at PK's. The band's sound is deeply rooted in heavy blues and rock and roll, which is hard to believe judging by the business-like attire its members sported.

A mix of addictive songs from 'The Bad Reeds' debut album "Field Holler" and classic rock covers made up the set list, and the band powered through it, ripping out high-energy guitar solos accompanied by brain-busting drumbeats and bass riffs.

The vocals, though hard to understand at times, were still an incredible compliment to the overall sound of the band. The singer had a raspy voice that just fit perfectly into the genre of music.

The band's sound wasn't at all like traditional blues; it was electrifying and heavy on the ears. One of its original songs called "Crazy Baby" had a southern rock sound and was catchy and seductive in nature.



ISAAC SMITH | DAILY EGYPTIAN

The Bad Reeds of Bowling Green, Ky., play their first show at PK's Saturday. The band has released one album, "Field Holler," and is currently recording their sophomore effort.

Applause and screams rang throughout the bar after every song, as the band had the crowd plugged in right from the start.

It seemed fitting that the band played some classic rock covers,

simply because their own songs resembled the vintage rock from the '70s.

The Bad Reeds also performed the classics well, which is always a feat in itself. Nothing is worse

than hearing a band butcher Led Zeppelin, but The Bad Reeds recreated "Whole Lotta Love" about as well as anybody living today could.

After their first show in Carbondale,

The Bad Reeds will definitely have music lovers coming back for more.

Ryan Simonin can be reached at rsimonin@dailyegyptian.com or at 536-3311 ext. 274.

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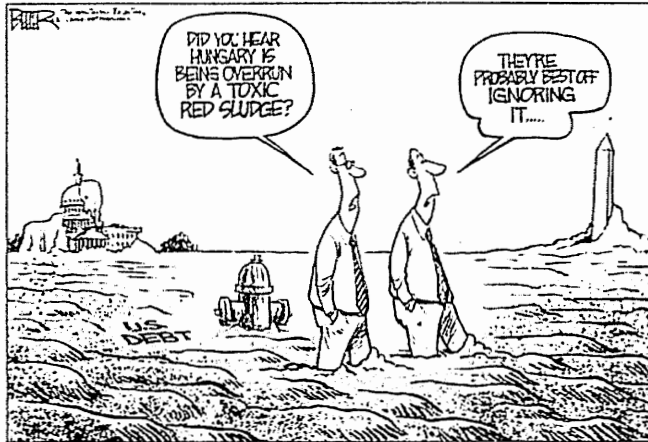
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STAFF COLUMN

Ask, tell for service members who can't

Brandy Simmons
Voices editor

It's national Coming Out Day, but the U.S. military's closet is full.

Americans should fear the issues they face right now — national debt, unemployment, the abuse of countless immigrants, embarrassing rates of obesity, the list goes on — but one issue, one monumental waste of money and resources shouldn't be on that list.

When gay servicemembers leave the comfort of their accepting communities to live in a closet of lies and oppression on active duty, in an environment where "faggot" is thrown around as acceptable vernacular, they say goodbye and hope against probability that someone caring will notify their partner if they are killed or wounded. Their partners won't receive their death benefits. They won't even receive the courtesy of notification by a chaplain or casualty assistance calls officer.

In less than two weeks, my little sister leaves for Afghanistan. If hers is one of the many bodies that comes home in a casket, I'll be unbearably crushed but I'll be thankful she's not gay, that I won't have to break the news to someone she held dear. She works among the men and women who notify families and counsel struggling soldiers. Considering what I, as someone who works in the public eye, see, I know she'll run into the shortfalls of the short-sighted "don't ask, don't tell" policy.

"Don't ask, don't tell," don't harass

doesn't prevent gay service members from suffering. When I was in basic training, a female soldier's girlfriend got breast cancer. For weeks, maybe longer, she called her girlfriend her sister so she could call home, and she cried alone while her partner fought cancer without her.

Many of us knew about her and the other gay soldiers we served with, but we protected her and our other gay comrades because they were good soldiers. We do this because we may one day rely on those same people to protect us in combat. We shouldn't have to protect them from the military they serve in, any time or anywhere.

I loved my job as a soldier in Iraq. The friends I made while serving there are irreplaceable, and the opportunities provided to me by the military will follow me through life. I can safely say the military provided me with a life and a family I never would have had otherwise.

But those fratricidal turncoats more interested in bedroom gossip than the health and well-being of our military and our country, who don't protect one another in every way possible, scare me. This includes the military lawmakers who allow "don't ask, don't tell" to survive. Whatever the policy, our duty to our country and to one another should never dictate discrimination within our ranks.

When servicemembers' caskets are loaded into plane bellies and sent home, lawmakers should feel guilty, not just because they allow wars to rage on despite an unsurprising lack

of weapons of mass destruction, but because they add to families' suffering every day "don't ask, don't tell" lives on. It's shameful.

Adding to the suffering of military personnel and their families is disgusting. The military's suicide and divorce rates are disproportionately higher than those on the civilian side. Hundreds of thousands of families have lost a loved one to our wars. The military's nature causes so much heartache already, why do we continue to throw government money at removing gay servicemembers and potentially ruining their future careers?

I don't understand our nation's priorities. Please, someone tell me, a straight soldier, what hurts me the most. Tell me my diabetic mother's health is less of a concern than Pvt. Joe Snuffy's lover of 10 years. Tell me food on the table of every American home holds less value than a Marine's strap-on. Remind me for the millionth time how skewed our nation's policies are when you kick out yr' another healthy, hard-working soldier.

Please tell me that our nation, our Congress and our voters care more about depriving those gays of rights than the health of their own families, the integrity of their own country and the example set for the next generation of Americans. Throw tax dollars at congressmen and women so they may continue to draw out the suffering of our homosexual and bisexual population, prosecuting them while our corporate-funded government goes unpunished.

Please, military lawmakers, pay to incarcerate nonviolent criminals and grow fat off of benefits taken from veterans and the elderly. Fester with corporate-caused carcinogens until your healthcare provider leaves you to rot, but please don't let people with matching genitalia openly love, date or have sex with one another. That would be repulsive. It would be criminal to terrorize our children with healthy couples that love each other.

If tomorrow I woke up gay — me, an Iraq war veteran and army-paid college graduate — I'd tell. I'd scream it at the top of my lungs and other servicemembers would claim I just wanted out. Who in the hell, straight, gay or otherwise, wouldn't be embarrassed to be a member of a group that pays so much attention to one of the lesser crimes that happens behind closed doors in this country? I'm sorry, that implies homosexuality is a crime and I don't think it is.

I am tolerant. I am the noncommissioned officer who accepts that when her fellow servicemembers have a few too many drinks, they push their boundaries and disregard rank, status and marriage. They apologize later and we drive on because we're a team and a family, and what happens off-duty is our business to handle.

I tolerate a lot for peace within my military's ranks, but I fought my comrades tooth and nail when they used the word "fag" in our office or attempted to call everything derogatory gay. I was lucky

because my unit was tolerant, too, and it agreed to remove that sort of indirect harassment from our workplace. I wish every servicemember could be so lucky.

To its credit, a large portion of the military is tolerant, but it's a disgrace to every servicemember who has honorably served that tolerance doesn't permeate everywhere.

I attempted to research how talking about this could affect me as a veteran and guardsman, but I decided the consequences were worth the message. I know my rights to free speech aren't the same as those of civilians, but the rights of gays in the military are far more oppressed. Servicemembers should never have to worry about associating with "known homosexuals" and, frankly, neither should I. Gay servicemembers, or those believed to be gay, shouldn't face harassment and threats knowing they cannot report such behavior without potentially outing themselves.

The Servicemembers Legal Defense Network makes a survival guide for gays who serve under "don't ask, don't tell." In it, SLDN warns servicemembers they may be punished for statements far more subtle than an outright, "I am gay."

So today, as openly gay civilians protected by these closeted servicemembers wear shirts bearing the words gay, lesbian, transgender or bisexual, I urge every ally, homosexual, heterosexual or otherwise, to add a message supporting those servicemembers who can't share your freedoms.

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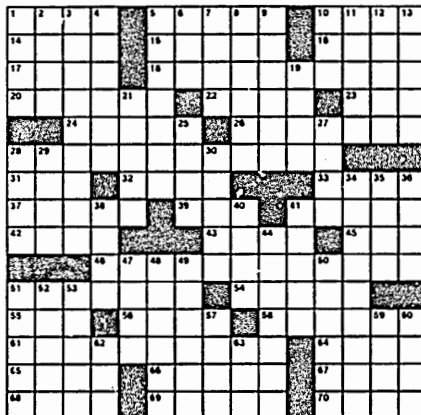
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Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Payroll tax with Soc. Sec. and Medicare components
- 5 Tibet's capital
- 10 Joo in a cup
- 14 Show that launched Kelly Clarkson's career, familiarly
- 15 Vagun emanations
- 16 Actor Wilson
- 17 "Give" or "take," e.g.
- 18 Engages in fanciful storytelling
- 20 Mukluk wearer
- 22 Mine access
- 23 The Beatles' "Just Seen a Face"
- 24 Trap
- 26 Subjects of wills
- 28 Bench squad
- 31 Only defenseman to lead the NHL in scoring
- 32 Ballpark entrance
- 33 Watson of Harry Potter films
- 37 Middle Corleone brother
- 39 Band booster
- 41 Camer renamed in 1997
- 42 "...forgive those who trespass ..."
- 43 "...in Boots"
- 45 Seventeenth-century date
- 46 Connecting idea
- 51 "Yee-haw!"
- 54 Prepare to drive
- 55 K+ or Na+
- 56 McDonald's symbol
- 58 Father to many?
- 61 Start acting independently
- 64 Intl. defense gp.
- 65 Ormery type
- 66 Seasonal sleigh driver
- 67 Micro or macro subj.
- 68 Egyptian vipers



By Kristian House

10/11/10

- 69 Disapproved vocally
- 70 Damp at dawn

DOWN

- 1 Nine-to-
- 2 Mid-month time
- 3 Wine cellar tool
- 4 White whale, e.g.
- 5 Hall of Fame manager Tommy
- 6 Dml surgeon's "one"
- 7 Diva's moment
- 8 Potential splinter remover
- 9 Saint Francis's home
- 10 "Ode to ..."
- 11 Watch for
- 12 Zeal
- 13 Authors Rico and Tyler
- 19 Bus, letter directive
- 21 Salsa fruit
- 25 Juanita's "this"
- 27 "Middle" period
- 28 Family room piece
- 29 Goals
- 30 Conductor's boat
- 34 Came to terms (with)
- 35 Flaky mineral

Friday's Puzzle Solved



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10/11/10

- 36 Like the Mojave
- 38 1920s-'40s art style
- 40 Usual fourth down play
- 41 Wedding party member
- 44 Blended-family parent
- 47 Colorful fish
- 48 Most insignificant
- 49 Tourist draws
- 50 Unrepairable
- 51 Modern witch's religion
- 52 Doctor's time in the office
- 53 Like much pub ale
- 57 Traffic complaint
- 59 Pack away
- 60 Cereal
- 62 "Very funny" TV station
- 63 U.S. 1, for one

Horoscopes

By Nancy Black and Stephanie Clement

Today's birthday — If you obsess over personal issues, you lose power in the social or career arena. Overcome this tendency by detailing work priorities and sharing the list with family members. That way they'll know what's on your plate and understand your moods better.

Aries (March 21-April 19) — Today is an 8 — Combine romance with work today by including your partner in social events involving clients and co-workers. Use creativity to make it really fun.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) — Today is a 6 — Your many talents take you in different directions now. Follow the traditional wisdom as far as it will take you. Then be willing to branch out.

Gemini (May 21-June 21) — Today is a 7 — "Work closely with children and elders to produce better results. You share talents you may not know about. Listen and learn from each other.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) — Today is a 6 — A friend or associate brings a gift to a social event at your place, sparking the interests and talents of all guests. Let others play first.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) — Today is a 7 — Work and play interweave in an unusual way today. Time away from a problem often allows a solution to emerge. Other imaginations provide the missing key.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Today is a 6 — Shop for supplies early in the day, so everyone has what they need to get their work done. Capture imagination with the right tools.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — Today is a 7 — Even if you have to work today, make time for recreational activities. You don't need to push that stone uphill all day. Hand it off to someone.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — Today is a 6 — Allow your thinking to wander now. Blurred focus is just what you need, as you apply artistic talents. Use a light touch and broad stroke.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — Today is a 6 — When issues impinge on your core values, pay attention. You don't want to give up something important to your philosophy. Others suggest solutions.

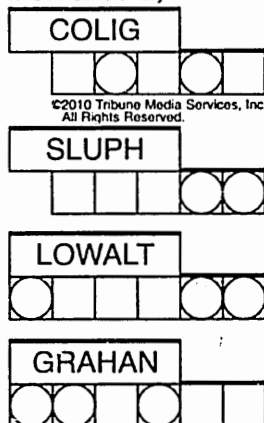
Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Today is a 7 — The more you work within your sphere of comfort, the more you accomplish. Associates see broader possibilities for future consideration.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — Today is a 9 — You need to clarify a philosophical point if the group's to move forward. You may call in an expert to clarify specific details and concerns.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March. 20) — Today is a 9 — No one knew what you'd say today, not even you. The big surprise is that everyone agrees and wonders why they didn't think of it themselves.

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter for each square, to form four ordinary words.



A: IT " " " "

Friday's Answers: Jumbles: BRAVE RUMMY STOOGE ARCTIC
Answer: When the young TV star pretended he was a baby, Mom said — "ACT" YOUR AGE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Mike Argirion and Jeff Knurek



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

Friday's Answers: Jumbles: BRAVE RUMMY STOOGE ARCTIC
Answer: When the young TV star pretended he was a baby, Mom said — "ACT" YOUR AGE

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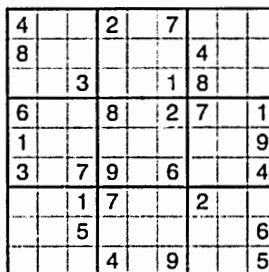
Friday's Answers: Jumbles: BRAVE RUMMY STOOGE ARCTIC
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SUDOKU

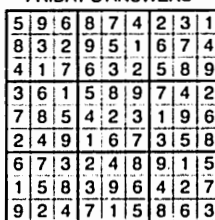
THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES by The Mephram Group

Level: 3 2 3 4

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk.



FRIDAY'S ANSWERS



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D.E. Daily Bark

With a loss to South Carolina Saturday, the Alabama Crimson Tide finds itself eighth in the NCAA football rankings. Boise State and TCU are still undefeated and are now ranked No. 3 and 4 with only Ohio State and Oregon above them. What implications does the Alabama loss have on the two teams trying to prove to the world they belong in the championship game?

I don't mean to be a hater to the two squads, but they're not good enough for a national championship when compared to Ohio State, Oregon, Nebraska or even LSU. Even if they stay undefeated, a one-loss Alabama team should make it before they do.



BRANDON LACHANCE
blachance@dailyegyptian.com



Alabama's last loss was to Utah, which plays in the Mountain West Conference, in the 2008-09 Sugar Bowl. Non-BCS schools such as Boise State and TCU deserve all the credit they get. I'd love to see either Boise or TCU win the national championship against a traditional powerhouse such as Nebraska, Ohio State or Florida.

BRANDON COLEMAN
bcoleman@dailyegyptian.com



Alabama deserves the hit in the rankings. The worst part about college football is the lack of competition, so it doesn't bother me when two programs that are usually on the outside looking in get a better shot at the title.

NICK JOHNSON
njohnson@dailyegyptian.com

from the Pound

This week's question:

Now that the Salukis have dug their way out of a 1-3 start with two straight conference victories, what's your prediction for the rest of the season for Dale Lennon's squad? Please submit all responses with your full first and last name to njohnson@dailyegyptian.com. The best three answers will be published in next Monday's edition, along with another question to answer.

PANTHER

CONTINUED FROM 1

Dicker led the go-ahead touchdown pass to receiver Jeff Evans on the first possession of overtime and the Saluki defense smothered UNI on the ensuing possession, forcing an incomplete from Rennie on fourth down.

"Chris is probably a reflection of our program right now as far as overcoming adversity," Lennon said.

Dicker led SIU to the win, but sophomore quarterback Paul McIntosh helped the Salukis extend the lead in the first half. McIntosh threw a 66-yard touchdown to Evans on his only passing attempt of the game and scored on a 20-yard touchdown run in the first quarter.

Junior UNI quarterback Zach Davis also helped the Salukis build the lead by throwing two interceptions in the first half, one of which was returned 36 yards for a touchdown by redshirt freshman SIU safety Luke Thuston.

"We knew that was coming; we're kind of in the same mood too with our offense using the two quarterback combo. We had seen enough of them and

they had used enough of the quarterback combination that our guys were pretty prepared for that," Lennon said.

The Panthers piled up 325 total rushing yards as SIU again failed to stop the run. The Salukis have allowed 176 yards per game this season on the ground, about 50 yards more than in 2009.

SIU will face another strong running threat Saturday in the Jackrabbits' Kyle Minett, who rushed for 143 yards and three touchdowns. Minett has 551 yards on the season and averages 108 yards per game on the ground.

Dicker, Rennie and Minett were nominees for the conference's offensive player of the week award, which went to Indiana State quarterback Ronnie Fouch for his four-touchdown performance in the Sycamores' 59-24 win over Illinois State.

Kickoff for the SIU-South Dakota State game, the Salukis' fourth conference game of the year, is scheduled for 2 p.m. Saturday at Saluki Stadium.

Nick Johnson can be reached at njohnson@dailyegyptian.com or 536-3311 ext. 256.

FOOTBALL

CONTINUED FROM 1

Dicker went 20 of 27 for 263 yards, an interception and two touchdowns, including the game winner in overtime to senior wide receiver Jeff Evans. McIntosh made his first appearance with 3:30 remaining in the first quarter. On the first play he ran on a quarterback keeper, but on the second play he completed his only pass attempt of the game to Evans for a 66-yard touchdown. The mobile McIntosh led the SIU rushing attack with 55 yards off 10 carries, including a 20-yard touchdown run early in the second quarter to put SIU up 17-7.

UNI started the second half down 31-14, but scored 24 unanswered points. The Panthers were ahead 38-31 until Dicker put together a scoring drive to tie the game with one minute and 11 seconds remaining in the fourth. Dicker said the Panthers' defense didn't really change; the

"We had short drives; we weren't connecting on plays and had a lot of three and outs that hurt us. They did a good job. They're a good defense, but we found a way to fight through that."

— Chris Dicker
SIU senior quarterback

Salukis' offense wasn't making plays.

"We had short drives; we weren't connecting on plays and had a lot of three and outs that hurt us," Dicker said. "They did a good job. They're a good defense, but we found a way to fight through that."

Rennie went 8-for-16 for only 104 yards passing with one touchdown and one interception, but rushed for a game-high 140 yards and reached the end zone twice. Davis connected on one out of seven pass attempts for a touchdown, but also threw two interceptions, one of which was returned 36 yards for a touchdown by SIU safety Luke Thuston. Rennie said he thought his team

played to the best of its ability to get back into the game, but SIU pulled ahead when it mattered.

"There are some times when you come out and play sort of hard then you lose and know why you lose, and then you give this example where we're down, we came back, went to overtime," Rennie said. "We played hard, left everything we had on the field and then we come out with the loss. I think that hurts more than the other one."

Brandon LaChance can be reached at blachance@dailyegyptian.com or 536-3311 ext. 282.

Johnson pads lead with 3rd at Fontana

The Associated Press

FONTANA, Calif. — Tony Stewart outduelled points leader Jimmie Johnson on a late restart and pulled away for his first career Sprint Cup win at Auto Club Speedway on Sunday.

Stewart started 22nd after a rough qualifying day, but was strong from the start of a lead-swapping 400-mile race, the final fall date at Fontana. He vaulted five spots in the Chase for the Sprint Cup championship with his first win in 19 tries at California, but Johnson pushed his points cushion to 36 over Denny Hamlin with six races left.

Clint Bowyer went around Johnson on the final lap to finish second in his first race without suspended crew chief Shane Wilson.

It wasn't such a good day for several other Chase drivers. Kyle Busch, Greg Biffle and Carl Edwards all had their Chase chances dented

by engine troubles, and Matt Kenseth finished a disappointing 30th.

Stewart was well back in the Chase after running out of fuel while leading late at Loudon and struggling Dover. He had a good showing last week at Kansas, finishing fourth, but still entered this weekend 10th in points, 127 behind Johnson.

After the so-so qualifying run, "Smoke" started working his way to the front and was fifth by the midpoint. He took the lead with 51 laps left and snugged it back after briefly falling behind to Juan Pablo Montoya.

In the lead again late, Stewart opted not to pit after an accident took out Chase driver Kurt Busch and pulled away from Johnson on the restart with two laps left. Bowyer passed Johnson, but was nowhere close to Stewart at the end. Stewart moved up to fifth in the Chase, 107 points behind Johnson.

Johnson had made his now-expected surge to the top of the Chase

standings, using a win at Dover and second last week at Kansas after a poor qualifying session to move past Hamlin.

This one has a little different feel, though, the aura of invincibility gone from the No. 48 after an atypical up-and-down season. Nine drivers were within 101 points after Kansas, making it one of the tightest races Johnson has faced during his Cup-after-Cup run.

Still, he had won four of his previous six starts at Fontana, including the past three fall races, and started a solid eighth Sunday while many of those chasing him had trouble in Friday's qualifying.

Five of the first six spots on the grid were nabbed by non-Chasers and only Kenseth (third) and Biffle (seventh) were in the Top 10.

Way behind them were Chasers Harvick (21st), Stewart (22nd), Hamlin (34th) and Kurt Busch (38th) who had a lot of chasing to do

Hamlin's climb became even tougher when he was dropped to the back of the field for a transmission change.

The good news for them is that Auto Club Speedway is nearly as wide as nearby Interstate 10, passing open even at four-wide.

The Chasers took advantage, too, with seven of the top eight cars in the Chase by Lap 90.

Johnson was among the movers, up to fifth in the first three laps, second after 19 and into the lead on Lap 47 even after dealing with debris on his front grill that pushed his engine temperature reached near 300 degrees. He stayed out front for a while, had his car fade to drop to 10th, then starting working his way back to the front again.

Johnson moved into second by passing Kasey Kahne with nine laps left, but didn't have enough to keep up with Stewart on the restart or to hold off Bowyer. Still, he walks away with a bigger points lead.

VOLLEYBALL

CONTINUED FROM 8

Winkler said aside from Northern Iowa and Creighton, any team in the Valley can win against any other team and improve their place in conference on any given night.

"There's not a whole lot of difference. Everybody else is in the mix so it gives a good situation to go into next weekend on the road," Winkler said.

The Salukis have won three of their last four matches. Winkler said adding Whitehead in the lineup and gaining more depth in the libero position with Blumhorst's return made the biggest difference to the team.

Johnson said she plays selflessly because she trusts her teammates will be where they should be on the court.

"Everyone who comes in off the bench is doing a great job filling roles," Berwanger said.

The Salukis play at 7 p.m. Friday at Wichita State University (11-5, 4-5 in MVC).

Brandon Coleman can be reached at bcoleman@dailyegyptian.com or 536-3311 ext. 269.

VOLLEYBALL

Salukis overcome Sycamores, dominate Redbirds

BRANDON COLEMAN
Daily Egyptian

Irenda Winkler's Salukis had not beaten Illinois State at Davies Gymnasium since she was undergraduate student at Millikin University in 1981, but the Salukis snapped a 23-match home losing streak to ISU when they beat the Redbirds three sets to one.

"We were determined to beat them. ... We knew the whole history. We beat them last year for the first time. We just hadn't beat them at home yet," senior outside hitter Jennifer Berwanger said.

Berwanger said she attributes the team's success Friday against the Indiana State Sycamores (8-12, 0-7 in MVC) and Saturday against Illinois State (12-8, 2-5 in MVC) to the return of junior libero Lauren Blumhorst.

"(The matches) showed what it would take to win matches in the Missouri Valley," Winkler said.

Early during the third set against the Redbirds, freshman outside hitter Jessica Whitehead suffered a mild leg injury diving for a dig. Winkler said with Whitehead out, the team was a little distracted because they were more concerned about their teammate than the game.

"They were more worried that she was really hurt. I said 'She's going to be alright; it's okay.' Any time something like that happens, we just seem to get a little bit off," Winkler said.

The Salukis (12-5, 3-4 in MVC) overcame an 11 to 0 deficit in the third set against Illinois State. Senior outside hitter Sydney Clark and Berwanger fueled the come-from-behind win.

The Salukis struggled to block the front left side but Clark entered the set, Berwanger said.

"Sydney had a few big blocks that I think turned around the momentum," Berwanger said.

Senior right-side hitter Alicia Johnson said

66 *We were determined to beat them. ... We knew the whole history. We beat them last year for the first time. We just hadn't beat them at home yet.*

— Jennifer Berwanger
SIU senior outside hitter

the Salukis matched up well with Illinois State.

"We had something to prove," Johnson said.

The Salukis battled back from two sets down in their match against Indiana State and won three straight sets in a dominating fashion. Johnson led the team defensively with 28 digs and five blocks.

"It was do-or-die for us after halftime and we've been in that situation before this year," Johnson said. "It was about time we came back."

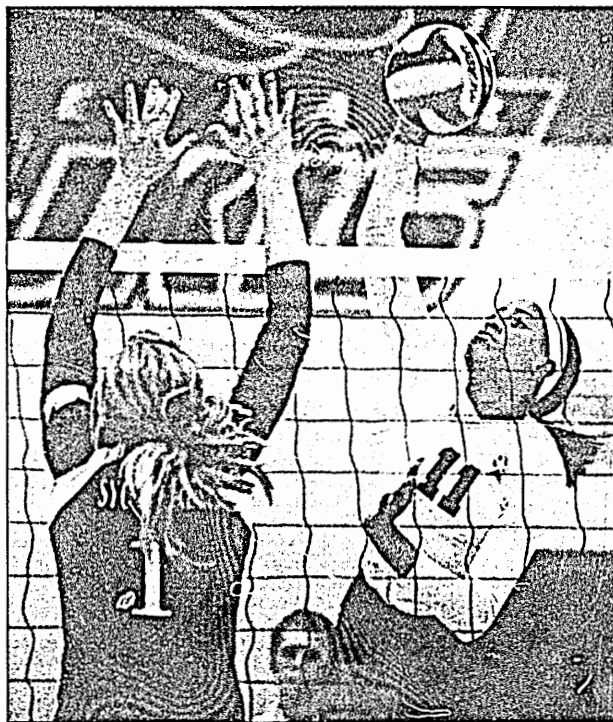
Johnson said she knew the Sycamores would pressure her throughout match but the entire team contributed on defense, diving for 104 digs in the five-set match.

Senior middle blocker Jasmine Connor said if it weren't for an improvement in the passing game, the Salukis would have never overcome their 2-0 deficit. Besides ball control, passing and blocking carried the team to victory, she said.

"Every team is going to get their kills; we decided to shift here, shift there and we were able to start digging the backside," Connor said.

Connor said the Sycamores' back row played the net close which allowed her, Whitehead, Berwanger and Johnson to hit the ball deep and score kills.

Please see VOLLEYBALL | 7



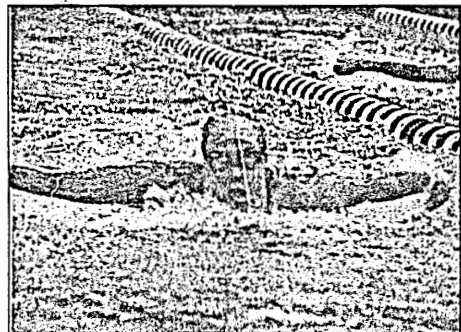
DAN DWYER | DAILY EGYPTIAN

Freshmen outside hitter Jessica Whitehead attacks the net for one of her 14 kills against Indiana State Friday in Davies

Gymnasium. The Salukis overcame a two-set deficit, winning three straight sets to win the match.

SWIMMING & DIVING

Southern swamps Vanderbilt in season opener



DANIEL MCGREW | DAILY EGYPTIAN

Sophomore swimmer Kirsten Groom competes against Vanderbilt University Saturday at the Edward J. Shea Natatorium. The women Salukis finished their first meet of the season with 10 out of 13 first-place finishes, winning the meet with a score of 127 to 96.

RYAN SIMONIN
Daily Egyptian

SIU's women's swim team defeated Vanderbilt for the second consecutive season Saturday as the Salukis captured 10 first-place finishes out of 13 events and earned a 127-96 victory Saturday at the Edward J. Shea Natatorium.

Coach Rick Walker said the team posted some great times for the first meet of the season.

"They really came together and they got a positive result because of it," Walker said.

Walker said the team's focus was exceptional and it swam really well as tired as it was.

The Salukis got off to a strong start as they captured first place in the 400-yard medley relay with a time of 3 minutes and 57.47 seconds.

Sophomore Kirsten Groom and

juniors Jennifer Kwok and Jill Wedkbach took the top three spots in the 1,000-yard freestyle with times of 10:21.57, 10:21.84 and 10:39.91.

Groom said everyone raced well for the first meet and expects the season to be a good one.

"Everybody has been working hard and we put it all together today. We had some really good relays and everything is going great, as planned," Groom said.

Freshmen Isabela Castro and "uica Silveira won their first collegiate individual events. Castro took first place in the 200-yard freestyle and backstroke with times of 1:55.69 and 2:08.19, and Silveira captured first place in the 50 and 100-yard freestyle with times of 24.16 and 53.50.

Castro said there was a lot of pressure on the freshmen and she was worried with how well the team performed.

"We just wanted to show them in the

pool that we are a team and we are here to win together," Castro said.

Walker said he was impressed with freshman walk-on Rachael Barry, who competed in the 400-yard relay with senior Marcela Teixeira, Kwok and Wedkbach. The team posted a time of 3:40.99, which was technically second-place, but the score was not counted because the meet had already been decided.

"She got her best in the first medley relay and we put her on the 400-yard relay and we almost won it. I don't think we could have done it with anyone else," Kwok said.

The Salukis return to the pool Oct. 16 where they will host a tri-meet against Kentucky and Missouri.

Ryan Simonin can be reached at rsimonin@dailyegyptian.com or 536-3311 ext. 274.